

Besmirched



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/ 500

BESMIRCHED
c/o Mogan
P.O. Box 2961
Vista, CA 92085-2961

ISSUE 2



- * Price: \$1.00/ (3) 32 cent stamps/ or trade
- * We review: zines, books, comics, music, videos, toys, movies, etc...
- * Submissions wanted
- * Ads are free
- * Published quarterly

Please do not send me the following:

- Form letters (I will not respond to them so please don't send 'em)
- Unequal trades (I really enjoy getting trades, but I can't afford to send you my zine in exchange for a one-pager)

Thanks

Welcome to issue 2. I can't believe it's summer already, I guess that makes this the summer issue. Spring sprung and it seems that I missed it.

Thanks to everyone who wrote, called, contributed and encouraged me to get through this issue. Shane, Jeff, Laura, Peter, Bob, Dave, Ruth thanks for contributing. Thanks to The Spent Idols, Mitch O'Connell, and Strung Out for their time. I'm always looking for people to contribute to this zine, so please send your stuff in. If you don't have the time just write us, it will truly be appreciated.

This issue is dedicated to Elizabeth Montgomery who was the bestest witch ever.

I really hope that you dig this issue of Besmirched. #3 will be out sometime in September (I hope). I'm going to the first ever X-files convention in a couple of weeks (yes, I'm an X-files geek) and I hope to tell you how it

was. It's probably going to be a bunch of freaky Sci-fi fans.

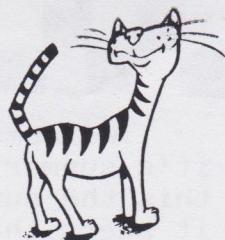
I can't wait. I'd love to hear if you went and what you thought of it.

I'm also looking for Ska bands to interview, to listen to, etc. so if you are one or know one please get in touch. Well, have a great summer and enjoy the zine!

-Mégan



WHAT'S NEW PUSSYCAT?



Well, here's an update on what's been going on with people I interviewed and other stuff I wrote about last issue.

* John Lloyd and Craig Christy of Raygun Tattoo had some of their art featured in the magazine Skin Art issue #25. There's a great picture of John tattooing GG Allin's head. It can be ordered for \$5.00 + \$1.00 postage from: Skin Art, 5 Marine View Plaza #207, Hoboken, NJ 07030.

✓ * Tiltwheel will be playing with Youth Brigade and Guttermouth on June 23 in San Luis Opisbo, they're doing a full length recording on Liquid Meat, and they have cool shirts on sale for \$5 cash. For more info or to order a shirt. Write to: Tiltwheel, 2602 Old Spanish Trail, Escondido, CA 92025



* Tank Girl the movie wasn't as bad as I thought it would be. It was kinda different from the script I read, but still kinda choked. However it had a few redeeming qualities, the art sequences in the movie were really cool, and Ann Magnuson as the bitchy madame was a nice surprise, and that was about it. I still think that they could have gotten Punky Brewster to be tougher. What ever happened to Solei Moon Frye anyway?

* I'm still trying to get an interview with Jane Weidlin, A friend saw her at the Veruca Salt show in LA but I guess it just wasn't meant to be.

THE HEROIN DIET PLAN

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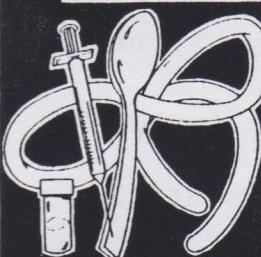
TIRED OF WASTING MONEY ON DIET PLANS THAT DON'T WORK? TIRED OF LOSING WEIGHT ONLY TO WIND UP PUTTING ALL THE POUNDS BACK ON AGAIN? ARE YOU JUST TIRED OF BEING FAT?



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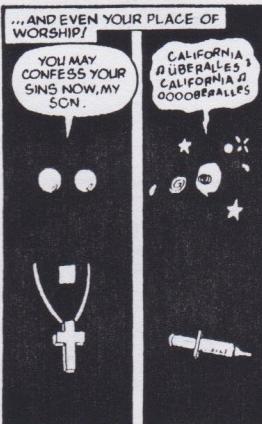


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WHAT? YOU WANT MORE FUN? THEN WRITE & SEND A BUCK (STOOPID) OR NEGATIVE ZINE! ISSUE #1 FEATURES INTERVIEWS WITH THE MIGHTY MIGHTY POSITIONEES BLACK TRAIN JACK & FUNKY FELLOW EVAN DORKIN, PLUS NEAT COMIX & MORE! SO WHAT'RE YOU WAITING FOR? NEGATIVE ZINE, PO BOX 20302, UPTOWN, NC 28698.

MITCH O'CONNELL

Since I don't know a thing about comics, I typically just walk into a comic book store and look for a cover that appeals to me. No super-heroes, No elves, Yes, a green woman in a bikini with pink hair and tattoos! This is how I initially came across the art of Mitch O'Connell, and I've been a fanatic ever since. Every time I'd see his art on the cover I would secretly hope to see more of his stuff on the inside of the book. But no dice. It usually turned out to be a great comic, minus the scantily clad women surrounded by Cheez-Whiz and Spam. That was, however, until I found Mitch's art book Good Taste Gone Bad. Tons of great stuff and even a couple o' comics. And it's not one of those books you finish with and put it in the bookshelf to die. I swear you'll keep finding a new twisted image to remind you of how warped your childhood was.

Anyway I was so inspired, I asked Mitch O'Connell a few questions by way of mail:





Good Taste GONE BAD





Your covers for *Deadline USA*, *Madman*, *Johnny Dynamite*, etc.. are great! Do you have any comic covers in the works?

Mitch: First of all- I'm amazed that you saw all those covers- my work is so scattershot not many people see much of it. The only cover I'm working on is a wraparound for the second issue of a comic called *Tor Love Betty*. When people ask I'm usually happy to do 'em. Oh- and you missed a recent one- the cover to *Married With Children* #1.

Do you read comics?

Mitch: The comics I've read recently are *Cud*, *Hate*, *Eightball*, *Palooka-ville*, and *Madman* -but my favorite comics are the goofy pre-code horror comics and wacky D.C. comics like *Jimmy Olsen* from the early 60's.

What projects are you working on?

Mitch: Right now I have four back covers for Kellogg's Cereal boxes about to hit your store shelves, some illos for *Seventeen*, a double page spread for *Hustler*, a full page for the next issue of *Playboy*, some clip-art, article illos for *Tease Magazine*, on and on and on... as soon as I finish one I have ten more to do. I'm quite happy I'm this busy especially since we're having a baby this July.



Do you collect anything? 50's and 60's memorabilia maybe?

Mitch: I collect a ton of junk. The oddball, kitsch and sexist in anything from big busted figurines to tasteless gag gifts. I have stacks of old mens magazines, comics, and postcards. Among the items in my studio are full size medical school model bodies with removable organs, many religious statues and paintings along with even more big eyed kid and animal staues and paintings. I love all this wacky Americana and try to work much of it into my art.



What artists do you admire?

Mitch: J.C. Leyendecker, Alex Toth, David Sandlin, Ron Murphy, Roy Lichtenstein, Dali, Ernie Bushmiller, Hank Ketchem, Charles Harper, I could keep on writing for an hour, but that would cut down on my T.V. time.



**Are you the only
artist in your
family?**

Mitch: YUP

**If you weren't an
artist what do you
think you would be
doing?**

Mitch: Male model

**What would your
dream job be?**

Mitch: Getting paid tons to crank out my goofball images so I wouldn't have to do a lot of bland advertising art. But I have no complaints about how things are going now -it's a great way to make a living

Thanks Mitch
and congratulations
(is it a boy or a
girl?)
-Megan

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DR. SEUSS

&

HOWARD COSELL



Well I read in the paper there was going to be a book signing in La Jolla for the new Dr. Seuss biography. I guess I thought to myself it was going to be a kinda fun thing to go to, since Dr. Seuss himself lived most of his life in La Jolla. Well, when I got there, the first thing I noticed was that I was one of the five people under 60. Most of whom were from La Jolla. Rich, snooty and deaf, makes for a dull crowd. So after what seemed like an eternity the people who wrote the book got up on a podium, put on their gold rimmed reading glasses and began to read their favorite parts out loud. It was pretty entertaining, but I noticed it seemed like they kept mentioning how much money Dr Seuss had made or what famous people he knew, they didn't really seem to care much about what drove this otherwise normal man to create such brilliant stuff. It was kinda like they were making him out to be some guy who was totally stern, conservative, serious, on the straight and narrow... but just happened to create the most bizarre, original, and surreal children's books ever written. But I suppose I just want to still believe that the man who wrote Green Eggs and Ham was really the Cat in the Hat. So after they were done reading, people asked some questions. I don't really remember what they asked but here's some of the stuff I remember from the answers: Dr. Seuss drank Vodka, Dr Seuss

didn't have kids because his first wife had an ovary removed or something, Dr. Seuss was afraid to meet kids because he didn't want to disappoint them since he was a pretty intimidating looking fellow not the cat in the hat like I used to think, Dr. Seuss's real name is Ted Giesel but His middle name was Seuss, Actually, almost all of the stuff that they talked about that night is also in their book *Dr Seuss and Mr. Geisel*. Well, I bought the book but haven't finished reading it yet. What I have read so far is really good. It's not as good as a Dr. Seuss book or anything but it's just about as interesting as a biography can get.



photos from the book:
Dr. Seuss & Mr. Geisel
published by Random House
artwork © Dr. Seuss Ent.

Well I suppose you're wondering why I mentioned Howard Cosell in the title. Well, I'm not really sure, but there was this really reclusive looking man, that night, who was sitting way in the back of the room. I looked around and everyone was kinda whispering and looking in his direction. He didn't want to be recognized and had that "don't bother me" expression on his face. I nudged my boyfriend and said "Who is that? Doesn't he look like Howard Cosell". My boyfriend replied "Isn't he dead." Two days later Howard Cosell died. Either Howard Cosell has a body double or he spent one of his last nights listening to quotes from Dr. Seuss books.

Spent Idols

The Spent Idols are a cool San Diego punk band. I've seen them play and they're definitely a great band to see live. This interview is with Mike Spent of The Spent Idols and was conducted by Laura

THE SPENT IDOLS:
Mike Spent- vocals
Henry Spent- Bass
Happy- Guitar
Jesse Spent- Drums

Laura: How long have The Spent Idols been around?

Mike: October of '92

And has the lineup changed since you started?

We go through guitar players like we go through sticks of gum, spit them out when the flavors gone.

Do you think your current lineup is permanent?

I hope.

What got you into punk?

I just like it because I felt weird, and it was a good place for freaks to go, people that weren't like anyone else. I also wanted to express myself, and punk is a good place to do that.

What were some of the first bands you got into?

Sex Pistols, I was definitely into the Sex Pistols. Vibrators. Saints. Dils.

Any record deals or projects coming up for the band?

Yeah man, our Pogostick 7" sold out in three months worldwide, so we're working out the deal for our LP "You Live, You Die", out this summer. Our Italian 10" 8 song EP on Helter Skelter Records is due out the first week in May. With the money we made from that deal I started my own label "Spent City Records", and our 7" is currently being pressed. I'm really stoked man, and were going to on a couple of cool comps with bands like the Queers, New Bomb Turks, Wretched Ones on Ransom Note Records out of Washington State.



Spent Idols 4/20/95 @ Velvet. photo by Laura



Mike Spent 4/20/95 @ Velvet. photo by Laura

Any tours?

Well, we just got a van, so we can do weekends in San Francisco, anywhere. We might go cross country.

So your pretty busy, huh?

Yea, but for now we just want to get our set tighter and to put out some new material, we've got over 30 songs we can play now.

What do you feel punk is?

An attitude, a common bond. It's not a clique, its more like a brotherhood. It's always cool when you see a punk, because it's an underground thing.

How can you tell the difference between a real punk and a poseur?

You can tell, it's not something you brag about, it's not like you go around like, "Hey man, look at my punk t-shirt", it's a way of life, it's an enjoyment of the punk rock culture and music.

Do you have any political views?

I treat people the way they like to be treated, until they show me their not worthy of being treated that way. I believe in anarchy, no government, but people have to be responsible.

How do you feel about MRR?

There's a lot of crap in it. A lot of smoke screen crap. But I think it's good, it helps keep DIY alive. It's my favorite.

How do you feel about Henry Rollins?

I think his dad is probably someone in the entertainment business, somebody in the entertainment field is pushing that guy. I just don't get what's so wonderful about that guy.

**What's an ideal punk show
for you?**

Playing with DeeDee Ramone, The Waldos' Jeff Dahl, The Stiffs in San Diego. And San Diego realizing that Punk Rock, real PUNK ROCK isn't just something that happened 15 years ago. That Punk Rock is still alive and well. Not the MTV Rancid, Bad Religion, heavy metal HC, but original POGO to you PUKE, fun for all, anything goes, anti I'm so hip power pop. We do it 'cause we love it, PUNK, the kind the Spent Idols play. Face it people, it's just like it was in the 70's, the music, the fashions, the terrorism, the economy, the country is going to shit. It's PUNKS time again, recycle time. I just wish San Diego could shake it's college rock PC punk or trendy wannabe, whatevers in rehashing. San Diego is a great place to be right now and the people are really cool, it's just slower than NYC or LA or even OC, but we're a SD band and we are not giving up on SD.

Any last words?

Seeya Later Alligator.

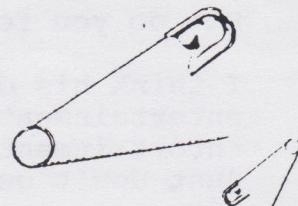


Thanks Laura, Mike Spent and the rest of The Spent Idols

-Megan

**For more info on upcoming Spent Idol shows,
releases, etc...**

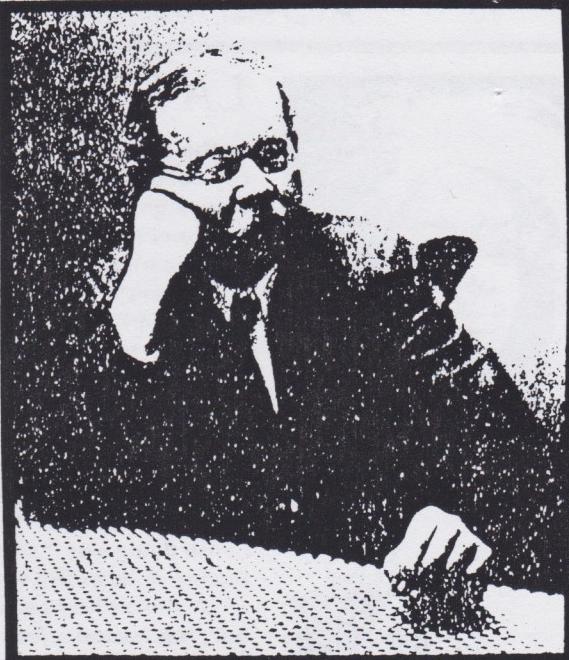
write to:
Spent Idols
P.O. Box 383
Vista, CA 92085
or call:
(619)7200-666



CHARLES FORT

Most of us know Charles Fort, that walrus-faced chronicler of the earth's bizarrities. But how many of us know the circumstances of Mr. Fort's life... and death? Ok, so some of you schmarties have read all about Mr. Fort but there are always a few of us poor souls who lag behind. So it is for these stragglers that I offer "The Life and Death of Mr. Charles Fort."

Charles Fort was born in Albany, NY in 1875 (I confess I don't know what day). His father owned a store. When he was 18 Fort left home and spent a year wandering around the globe. Upon returning home he fell in love with Anna, his grandfather's cook. They married and spent the next 20 years living in poverty while Fort wrote fiction and did some journalism. When he was 40 Fort came into an inheritance and set out to do what he has always wanted: that is, to chronicle all the weird and unexplainable events he could find. For the next 27 years he searched the book files of every newspaper and magazine he



could find at the New York Public Library and British Museum, looking for articles about unordinary and unexplainable events.

He made little notes of all these findings and sorted them into shoeboxes according to category. As well as the falls of fish and frogs that one immediately associates with Fort , he also wrote about UFO's long before they were actually called UFO's, spontaneous combustion, curious snow structures, tiny stone crosses found in Virginia, teleportation... anything that "modern" science tried to explain away and couldn't. He referred to these events as "the damned" "By the damned I mean excluded. We shall have a procession of data that science has excluded—" is how he introduces his first work "The Book of the Damned". He wrote four books in all- the other three are New Lands, Lo! and Wild Talents. All are now published in one volume by Dover Books.

The article below is from the magazine Fortean Times issue #78 it's available for \$ 5.95 from:

FT Back Issues

20 Paul Street, FROME, Somerset, BA11 1DX, UK

LAWYERS GAG BARBIE

In the best traditions of Californian infantilism, the giant toy corporation Mattel has thrown a tantrum because a New Age psychic is playing with its dolls. Two years ago, 'channeled' Barbara Bell of San Francisco began receiving psychic messages from Barbie, the pouting plaything who is 35 years old this year. The first was: "I need respect" [see FT68:7].

After two years of psychic transmissions, Mattel has put an end to *Barbie Channeling Newsletter* by threatening a multi-million-dollar lawsuit. Through her psychic guide, Barbie has been answering queries about what life is like when you have a constant smile, a 42 inch bust, a reversible head and legs that are frequently amputated by little brothers. "I go into light trance and the words come flying out," said Bell, 44. "There are 700 million Barbie dolls in the world with no voice that's real."

A senior Kuwaiti religious official, Khaled al-Mathkour, has issued a *fatwa* calling for the Barbie doll to be banned because, he said, its feminine curves had "nothing to do with childhood." *New Zealand Sunday Star-Times*, 5 June; *Times* 31 Aug 1994.





In 1931 the Fortean Society was formed. Fort's reaction was not one of pleasure. He said he would no sooner join the organization "anymore than I'd be an Elk". He had few friends and no telephone. He and his wife went to the movies nearly every night but other than that lived quiet lives.

1931 was also the year Fort became ill. He refused physicians, probably because his research had uncovered so many tales of malpractice and quackery. It is speculated that he had leukemia, though Fort himself described his illness as a "mysterious conscious parasite." His last book, Wild Talents, was published just the day before he died on May 3, 1932. The death certificate states he died of cardiac arrest and leukemia, however, the doctor had never seen Fort before and may have written down leukemia just because Anna Fort told him to.

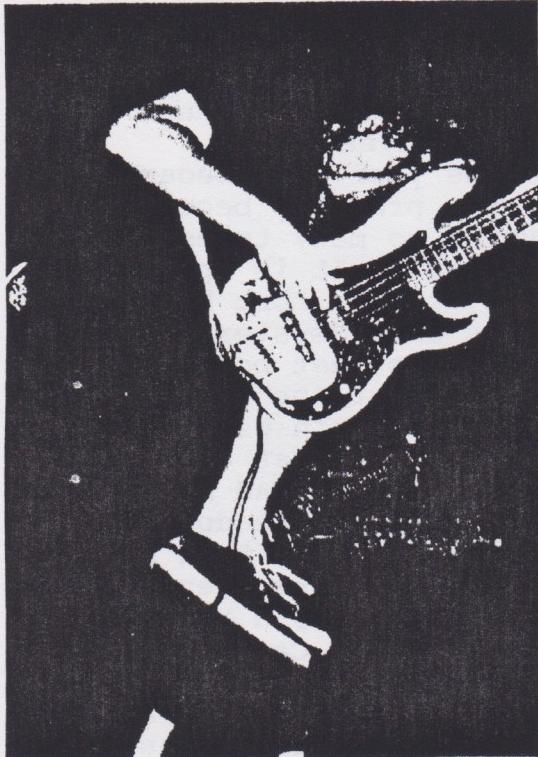
Although Fort wanted to be cremated, his body was taken to Albany, NY and buried between his parents in Rural Cemetery. His wife told, a friend in 1933 that Fort had visited her after his death; that on a night she had been very distressed she had seen him on a small couch in their bedroom. "Hello Mamma" he had said. She said she was very happy to see him.

-Ruth

To order Ruth's calendar which is full of great stuff like this article plus other fun facts and interesting information send a SASE to Ruth Fledermaus

43 Goldsmith Street #2
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

STRUNG OUT



Well I intended this to be an interview, but actually it didn't really turn out that way.

Nevertheless, Dave and I asked members of Strung Out some questions cast of characters:

Dave: question man and member of the band Tiltwheel

Jim: bassist of Strung Out

Jordan: the drummer of Strung Out

Jason: the singer of Strung Out

So, you managed to get San Diego out of a coma?

Jim: San Diego has always been good to us, except at 21 and over clubs. We pretty much owe it all to Davey from Tiltwheel. He's our original hookup for San Diego. Considering we met him 3 years ago at the Anti-Club.

Jason: He was standing right in front of me and he looked like he wanted to beat me up. I was thinking who is this guy, and he's standing there, staring at me.

Dave: Since you've played in Europe more than America lately, where do you like playing better? Do you like the crowds there?

Jim: It's totally two different things. It's like you like beer sometimes, but then you like milk another time.

Dave: Elaborate!!!!

Jim: European crowds are crazy! Fuckin crazy.

Jason: They'll get up on stage and get naked, or do whatever.

Jim: In America a lot of the kids are... well it's just so saturated here. Y'know?





Strungout 2/24/95 @ Soma. All photos by Ted T.

Is there more lingerie thrown at you here or in Europe? (I asked this question because at the show a bra or something was flung on stage)

Jim: No, I've only seen lingerie thrown at us at one other show besides this one, and that was at one of the Offspring shows. They throw it at Jason.

Jason: We like lingerie

Jim: Jason likes lingerie, I like patent leather and latex and stuff like that. I like to be tied up and beaten too.

Jason: we're discovering our...

Jordan: Are you guys doing an interview...? You're crazy.

Jim: Hey, this is the newest member of our band right here- Kameron Shannon. He takes care of us and makes sure we don't get raped by promoters.

Do people ever tell you that you have the same name of Ferris's friend in Ferris Bueller's Day Off?

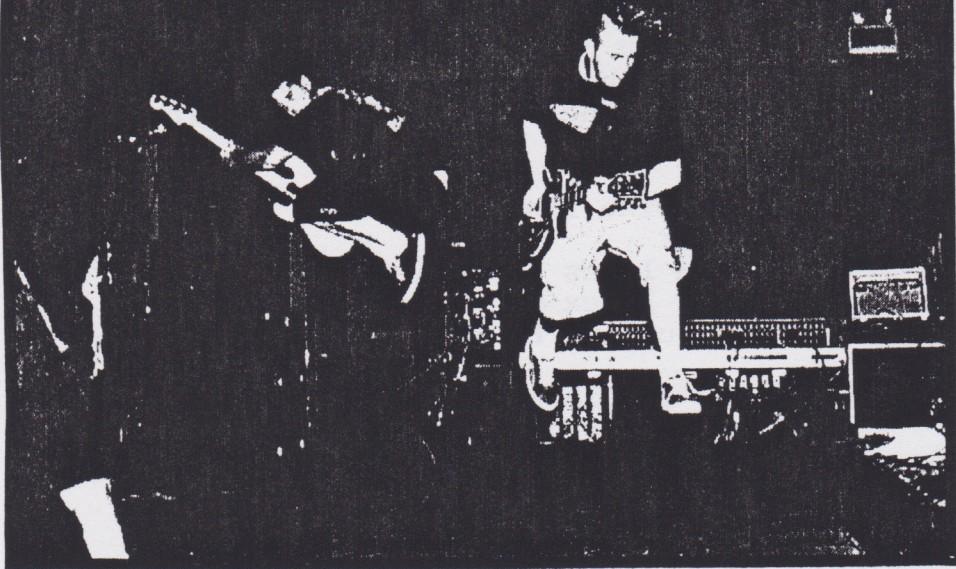
Kameron: No, everyone just goes ahead and sings the song to me.

Everyone: Let my Kameron go...

Jim: Actually Kameron inspires us. He's a big influence in our writing. When ever we get down on ourselves, we just lock Kameron in a bathroom, turn the lights on and off, and make him say Bloody Mary three times.

Suddenly everyone in the immediate area begins reliving memories of their own Bloody Mary experiences:

"I was too scared to even go into the bathroom"..."You said you wouldn't tell people that"..."Bloody Mary Bloody Mary Bloody"..."I could do it for a second and then I would freak out"..."I swear I could see her"..."Let me out of the bathroom!!!!" (this went on for about 5 minutes)



Dave: So anyway, when did you guys start and how long have you been a band?

Jim: Well Jason wandered into practice one day off the street and said that I couldn't sing and he started singing and then...

(Jordan walks out of the club carrying a case of Coke AND a case of water)

Dave: Hey Jordan what's your markup on that?

Jordan: Marks rights up into my fuckin refrigerator.

Jim: Oh, we'd like to say thanks to Blink and most definitely thanks to Tiltwheel.

Thanks to Jim, Jason, and the rest of Strung Out for their time. Also, thanks to Dave for helping me with the interview and Ted T for the photos.

-Megan



BREW REVIEW

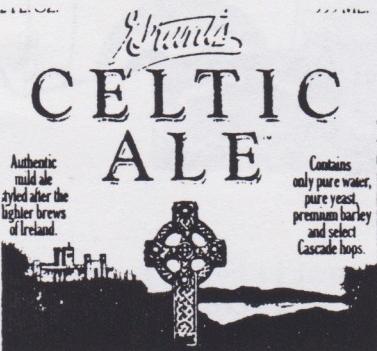
I suppose there are tons of reasons people drink beer. So I'm just gonna say that this review is not gonna be

justified if you're drinking strictly to get intoxicated because we all know it doesn't really matter what it's called just as long as it works. And it's also understandable that if you've got three bucks your gonna get what you can afford and be done with it. But if for some strange reason you have a pocket full of cash, time on you're hands and you don't feel like doing anything useful it can be kinda fun to go and try beers that are not mass produced, they are generally more expensive but are usually worth it. So having said that, I'm gonna try to critique some of the cool beers I've come across in the past three months. I don't know that much about how beer is made so I'm totally unqualified, nor do I know anything about what makes a "good beer" so that makes me even more unfit to do a review. So I'm gonna do a review.

Oh, I'm also interested in hearing about your beer preferences, inexpensive microbreweries, beer making tips, and maybe even a drunken story or two. I hope to print some of your stuff in the next issue, so please send it in!!! One more thing, I'm not going to get busted for advocating anything illegal so if your 16 or something and you get caught drinking don't say I told you to do it, because I didn't.

Devils Brew Porter. Devil Mountain Brewery, Benicia, CA. Yum!! A really cool looking label that reminds of David Lynch I guess it's because it looks like the beginning of Blue Velvet but the label is red not blue. Anyway this was the darkest of the beers I reviewed and also one of the best. It was kinda nutty and coffee tasting and really filling.

Grant's Celtic Ale. Yakima Brewing and Malting Co. Yakima, Washington. I bought this beer because the label had a cool looking Celtic Cross on it, but when I got home and looked at the label again I realized that it read "only 99 calories" so I assumed it was going to be awful. Well I was wrong it wasn't bad at all. It wasn't great, but it was the best 99 calorie beer I've ever had.



Grant's India Pale Ale. This beer was much better than the Celtic Ale, but I like IPA a lot anyway. There's was nothing really exciting about this beer but it tasted good.



Red Tail Ale. Mendocino Brewing Co. Hopland, CA. Oh how much fun I have saying the name of this beer, plus it has a neat looking label too. It might just be me but this beer tasted kinda fruity to me. It wasn't that it was really sweet or

anything it just tasted kinda like it had something fruity in it. But it's not a flavored beer or anything so it wasn't overwhelming, actually it was very good.

Ed's Original Cave Creek Chili Beer. Black Mountain Brewing Co. Inc. Cave Creek, AZ. Well it's not hard to miss the big chili floating in the neck of the bottle, so it was fairly obvious that this beer was going to be spicy. But what a nightmare, the damn beer was so hot I thought it was going to burn a hole through the back of my neck, OK it wasn't that bad, but it was really hot. Anyhow I have no idea how the beer tasted because it just tasted like a bottle of liquid chili.

Gila Monster. Gila Monster Brewing Co. St Paul, Minnesota. A light reddish beer that had so much darn carbonation it nearly killed me. I guess it tasted pretty good, but I'm not really sure if I like it because it had a strange after taste. It was almost like it left a greasy taste in my mouth. I don't know if I would buy it again.



Legacy Red Ale. Chicago Brewing Co. Well the label was super cheesy, some coat of arms looking thing. But the beer was yum yum yummy! It was a really red beer so right away I knew I was going to like it, and I did (even though the expiration date on the label was 6 months ago)

St.Stans Dark. St Stans Brewing Co. Modesto, CA. "conceived in heaven, brewed in California" that's darn clever if you ask me. Well I'm not sure if it tasted like it was conceived in heaven, but it sure did taste an awful lot like Guinness, actually it tasted exactly like Guinness. So if you like that beer you'll like this beer.

UNDERDOG LADY

...CONTINUED

WE LAST LEFT UNDERDOG LADY, THE CARTOON INCARNATE, TAKING A BOW IN FRONT OF HER SO CALLED "ENLIGHTENED" AUDIENCE WHOM HAD JUST WITNESSED THE VERY HEART AND SOUL OF UNDERDOG™.

WHEN I HAD GOTTEN HER ATTENTION, AND ASKED FOR HER SIGNATURE,

I NOTICED SOMETHING VERY VERY FRIGHTENING.

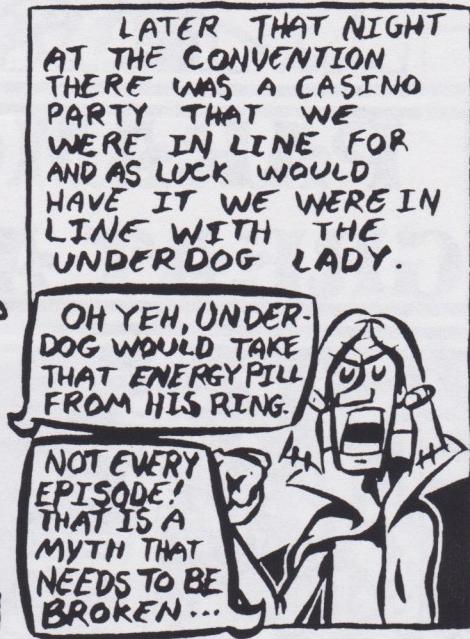
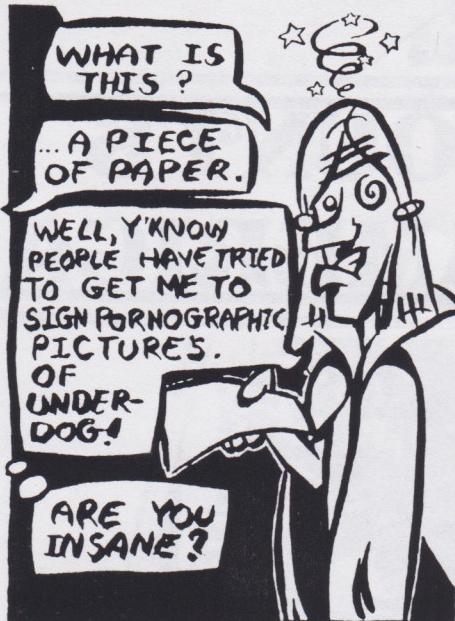
JAD-EEZ US!

BUT WHEN EVERYONE FINALLY GOT OVER THE SHOCK OF THE INTERPRETIVE DANCE OF UNDERDOG, THE CROWD MOBBED HER JUST TO GET A PICTURE OR AN AUTOGRAPH.



AND THEN IT HIT ME! THIS WOMAN REALLY SMELLED BAD!! SUDDENLY I CAME TO THE REALIZATION ALONG WITH THE HORRIFYING IMAGE. SHE PROBABLY LICKS HERSELF CLEAN, JUST LIKE A DOG WOULD.

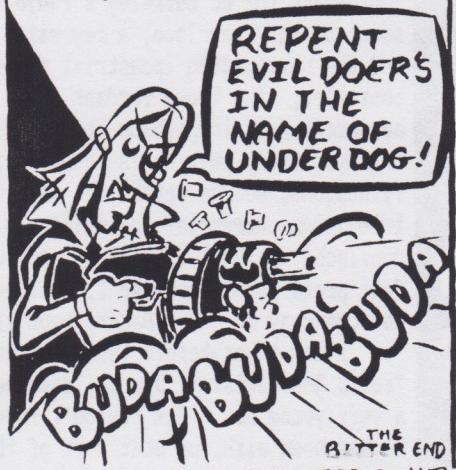




I WATCHED UNDER-DOG LADY IN THE CASINO THAT NIGHT. WONDERING "WHY IS SHE HERE?" I DIDN'T SEE HER PLAY AT ANY OF THE TABLES AND EVERY TIME SHE WALKED BY THE BAR, SHE WOULD TURN AROUND AND SCOWL AT THE BARTENDER, AS IF HE WAS THE DEVIL HIMSELF.



NOW AFTER ALL THAT, ALL I'VE GOT TO SAY IS THANK GOD UNDER-DOG™ DIDN'T CARRY A MACHINE GUN.





PARAMOUNT'S GREAT AMERICA



Now, understand that I don't usually go to amusement parks. I always found them to be long on glitz veneer and short on thrills. And, above all, very expensive. But last summer an opportunity presented itself to me to get into Paramount's Great America, for free, under the guise of a radio journalist for UC Berkeley's radio station KALX. Great America is just south of San Francisco, a few miles inland, near San Jose. Great America, and the surrounding industrial parks with their unnaturally natural obstacles; like those verdant parks in an arid country, Great America is an amusement park in perhaps the least amusing part of California: Silicon Valley. Great America is famous for its Hanna Barbara mascots (Fred Flintstone, George Jetson, et al), the Top Gun rollercoaster, and the television commercial featuring a Dick Dale song on the soundtrack. I convinced the Public Relations Representative, Melissa Bader, to give up four press passes because I, um...needed a whole crew of radio journalists to accompany me. Ms. Bader, hook line and sinker, agreed.

I had never before been to Great America, but one of my entourage of "radio journalists", Jim H., remembered riding the Demon roller coaster as a very young boy. Tim couldn't remember anything else about the park, who he had been with, or what sort of theme the theme park had back then: The Demon is a faint apparition of memory glowing in his foggy recollections. All he knew was that The Demon was a cool ride. Thusly, our faux-journalistic endeavor was sharpened into a mission: to discover if The demon still exists, if so, is it cool? Do Tim's childhood notions of cool hold true today?

First we had to discover what sort of park Paramount's Great America, 1994 is. A stomping ground for local toughs? Bucolic acreage of fantasy and fun for parents and their kids? A place for lovers? Ms. Bader, who met us at the gate and granted us a quickie interview, described the park as something for everyone but nothing to get really excited about. In neutralized PR-speak, she tells of the new "Days of Thunder" ride: "It's a great attraction...it's good for anybody who likes rides at all, even the people who don't like roller coasters. It's a nice, mild ride."

Of course, being a PR rep, Ms. Bader's bread and butter are the community events the park hosts. She eagerly pointed out Great America gives back to the community by employing hundreds of local youngsters from the Santa Clara County environs, hosts a few annual Christian Celebrations ("They all come down in buses and have a great time"), as well as a day at the park for cancer patients and their families "to kind of take the day off from cancer", and sponsors academic theme days like Physics Day and Math Day, when local kiddies get the park all to themselves and are loaded down with worksheets and project lists: "It's a good way to put together learning and the fun of a roller coaster". Kudos for Ms. Bader's portrayal of Great America as a place not just of fun and excitement but fund and excitement that has been socially justified.

All of this, however, brought us no closer to what Tim experienced as a child, nor to a realization of The Demon. The face of today's Paramount's Great America is only the latest of a line of faces. Change is the norm at GA. In the beginning the title wasn't Paramount's Great America, just Great America, and it got that unfortunate name because it opened in the year of our Nations bicentennial. The Marriot company, whose hotel overshadows the park today, thought it needed a tourist attraction to complement the hotel in 1976, and, not thinking the name would become instantly obsolete, named the park in a puff of timely patriotism. Pride lasted until 1984 when the more concrete realities of a depressed economy forced them to sell the land and everything on it to the city of Santa Clara. Many of the citizens of Santa Clara were of such deflated patriotism they proposed the park be razed and replaced with one of the eerily lush industrial parks. The more fun-loving and patriotic citizens won out, because Santa Clara became the only city in America with its very own amusement park.

Management duties were doled out to King's entertainment Group. Kings, puffing with pride, bought the park from Santa Clara in 1989. They owned several parks throughout the country and they were most notably responsible for bringing in Warner Brother's mascots. Tweety Bird, Yosemite Sam and friends roamed the park and wowed the kids.

King's handed the reins over to Paramount when the later bought King's and all it's properties. Warner Bros. was quietly ushered out, having been usurped by Hanna Barbara character. Mr. Flintstone and Yogi Bear became the cocks of the walk, and, still, the kids were wowed.

More than fuzzy, adult-sized Hanna Barbara characters came. The park

found itself infested with residual Paramount Pictures motifs. The park was swathed with Hollywood: Top Gun roller coaster, the Tucker Cafe based on the 1988 flop "Tucker: The Man and His Dream", Wayne's World on ice, and the aforementioned, geriatric "Days of Thunder" ride. "With Paramount we have a greater opportunity to theme our attractions," Ms. Bader again, "if you look at some of our attractions we had before Paramount, they're not themed to any specific movie or TV show. It's kind of given us more things to tie into." In other words, a place where bad movies come to die.

Amid all the Paramount Pictures hoopla stands The Demon. By my research, The Demon was built pre-paramount, even before King's, back in the Marriot hotel days. Independent of corporate sponsors, The Demon operates on its own demonic motif. The journey to the heart of Great America, the jungle of recollection, continued...

Across from "nice, mild" Days of Thunder is Tucker's Cafe, a fast food restaurant made to look like a 1940's garage. Cafeteria style: pans of fried fish and fired chicken and french fries and cole slaw (a vegetable?) lay under heat lamps and a plexiglass sneeze guard. I tried to get one of the very shy employees (local Santa Clara youth, not doubt) to talk into my tape recorder.

Me: "Tucker's is based on a film, isn't it?"

A server: "Is it?"

Another server, obviously confused: "Actually it matches the Days of Thunder ride over there...it's like, they're both about cars."



When I asked how the food was prepared, one of the wittier employees offered: "We put lots of oil in it so you have a heart attack." He thought his quip was funny and laughed at his own cleverness. His laughter took a different tone in my ears when I realized he wasn't kidding.

Near Tucker's is a restaurant called "Wings", based on the 1930's flick. At the cash register was a young high school lad working his first season at GA. He was a little shy, too, and I liked him because he knew what the motif was all about, although he admitted he hadn't seen the movie. He didn't try to be clever and he responded to my questions with a softspoken guilelessness. He told me he lives in San Jose and his mom drops him off at work and picks him up. GA is his first real paycheck, and he seemed to be visited by the nascent realization that he has gotten himself into a crummy job. He told me the ribs are alright, and he's heard the chili's good but he hasn't tried it yet.

Also in Wings I met a young woman named Tiffany McDonald, Miss Placer County 1993. She was looking for beer. Great America is a dry park. When I suggested she might smuggle some in she was well ahead of me: "First we had to test the waters to see how lax security was." The pride of Placer County. Home of Folsom prison.

Continuing on, looking for The Demon, we stumbled upon The Grizzly, the park's only all-wood coaster. At the entrance is a posted sign:

"The Grizzly. For your safety
due to the dimensions of the
Grizzly's train seats, guests
with large physical conditions
may not be able to ride safely.
The safety restraints must be
able to be pulled down far
enough to lock securely."

Curiosity fomented, I asked the exit operator, who seemed abnormally proud of his job, to expound: "The lap bars click so low that if you are of oversized proportions the lap bar won't click...what we have to do is keep pushing until the lap bar clicks."

Obviously, a delicate situation arises when an oversized proportion crosses with an unclicking lap bar. I asked what the protocol is. "We just say 'I'm sorry, this ride is malfun...'"--we can't call it 'fat' here so you have to say 'This ride is too small for you and we'll get you on another ride'." Just then we were interrupted by an unclicking lap bar, and the exit operator performed his recitation. We left the Grizzly.

"We have the easiest job in the park," said the mascot escort, whose job it is to walk the ground aimlessly alongside Yogi or Astro or Fred, acting as mouthpiece for the character, and generally wowing kids. The characters themselves are not allowed to talk at all. If a child heard Yogi's voice, it might not be congruous with what is in the kids imagination, and that would belie the veneer of the park as a fantastic

land of fuzzy, happy friends. Even though they were contracted to silence, I found an off-duty Yogi and coaxed him into spilling a few words. With that unmistakable GA pride leaking through, he proclaimed that he, indeed, had the best job in the park: "Hug and take pictures. Be nice." The job, however, is not without hazards, he says, from joyless patrons prone to violence. "There is a human being inside each character. People don't get that concept or something... it does hurt." But the rewards are great, he said, with sincere enthusiasm: "When you put on a costume, you want to bring this character to life...it's like you really are the character."

GA employee managers, who like to keep the mascots veil to protect their uniqueness, discovered off-duty Yogi and I and called my interview away from me for a reprimand. Flushed with guilt, I intervened into the employer-employee exchange to draw the heat away from Yogi. The manager was finally placated when I promised not to reveal how many Yogi's they have. I never did find out how many Yogi's they have, but I guarantee there's more than one.

The mascot escorts, on the other hand, have no qualms against blabbing. And blab they did. I was told in a casual, straightforward manner about a guy who once rode the log ride: "Someone stood up and fell out of the boat and the boat ran him over and he died." Once the escort started, he was a fountain: "...and then the Whizzer. When he stepped out of the car it pushed the other car out of the way and he fell down and died."

According to newspaper accounts from March 1980, the ride "Willard's Whizzer" mysteriously slowed and then sped, one car rear-ending another, causing 13 year-old Kyle Floss to, as they say, fall down and die. A ride operator was reported saying, in a manner which decidedly belies the veneer of competence, "according to my manual, this is not supposed to happen." After the accident, the gaggle of youngsters gathering around Willard's Whizzer, unaware of the tragedy, were told the ride "ran out of gas". Seems "Death Trap" is right up there with "Fat" on the list of things not to say.

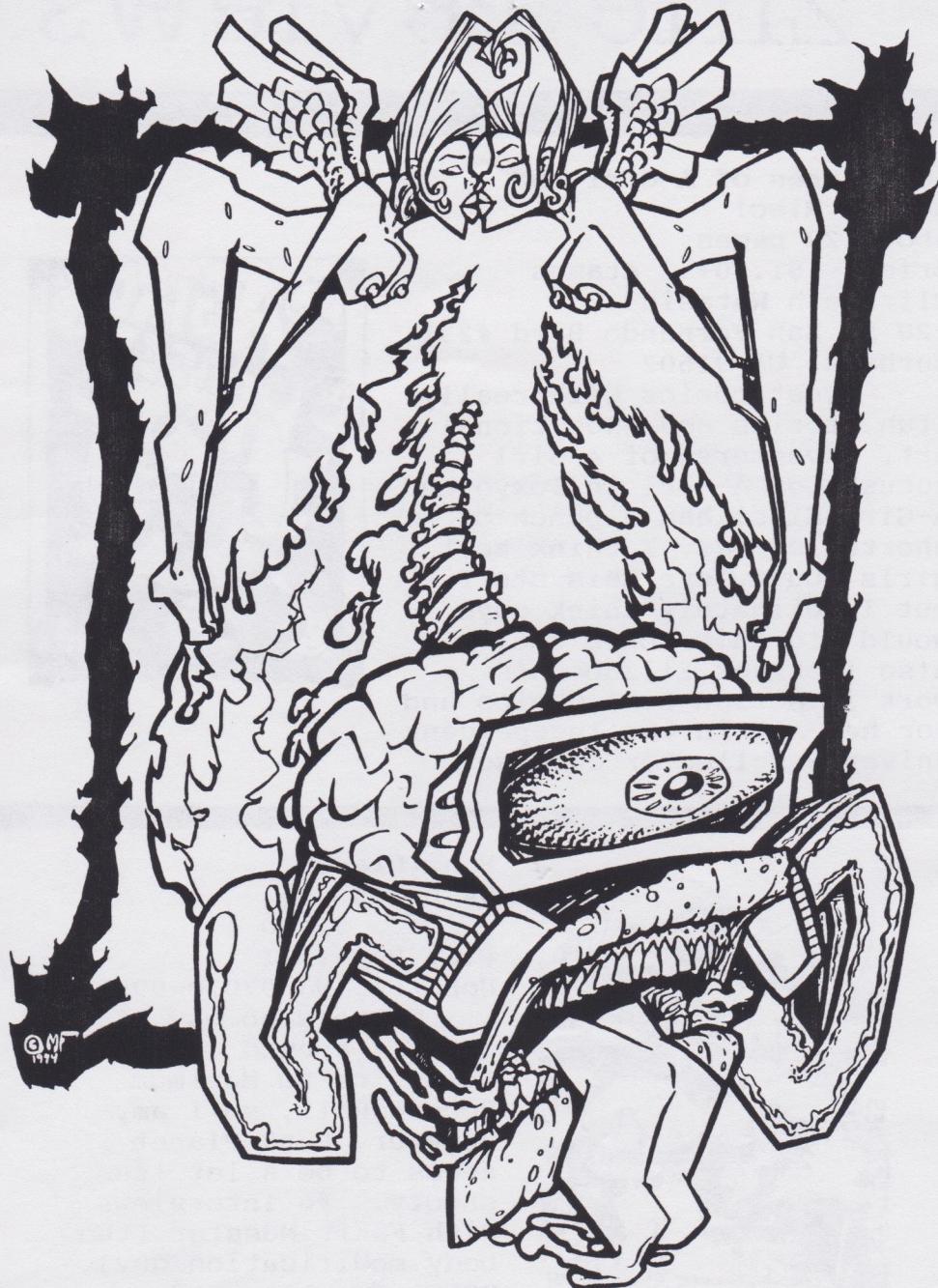
In a far corner of the park, opposite a chain link fence from the highway, is The Demon. Built in 1980, The Demon has resisted the shadow of hype elsewhere in the park. The decorative rocks are porous Styrofoam which have been spray painted shale grey. The train's lead car is painted with screaming flames and a demonic grin like some bad-ass hot rod. The track has two loops and one short vertical drop. It's a low-key ride providing a cheap, honest thrill. A cool little coaster.

Definitely worth the free admission. Ha Ha.

Then we left, tired and hungry (hungry because nobody wanted to spend a small fortune on slabs of fried fish cooked in lots of oil "so you have a heart attack"). In this last paragraph let me summarize: Some aspects of the Paramount's Great America cater to the infinite capacity for wonder and trust in a child, but other parts are like when you finish school and you realize you have to get a haircut and a nice pair of shoes and go find yourself a job.

--Peter Crimmins

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ELSE. WRITE FOR COLOR, SIZES, TRADES, ETC...

zine reviews

Adventures of A-Girl and A-Girl Misc!

about 20 pages

price: \$1.00+ 2 stamps

Elizabeth Watasin

120 S. San Fernando Blvd #231
Burbank, CA 91502

Great comics with really fun stories and exceptional art. Adventures of A-Girl focuses on A-Girl in Tokyo, and A-Girl Misc! has a bunch of shorter comics. I think most girls would love this stuff but I definately think guys would dig this comic too. Also look for Elizabeth's work in Action Girl Comics and for her art in the Independent Universe Collector Card set.



Punk Planet

94 pages

price: \$2.00

P.O. Box 1711

Hoboken, NJ 07030-9998

There's no way of getting around comparing this zine to Maximum RockandRoll, so I am. However, Punk Planet seems to be a lot less snooty. #6 Interviews with Fakir Musafar (the body modification guy), NOFX, MaryLou Lord, Capitalist Casualties. Plus columns, Fiction, and a Red Aunts flexi that I LOVE! What a



Negative Ink

24 pages

price: \$1.00

P.O. Box 20302

Staten Island, NY 10302

#2 A totally well rounded issue! Interviews with Evan Dorkin, The Mighty Mighty Bosstones, Pseudohoodlum, Black Train Jack, and articles about Bob Ross, the oil painting guru, Negative Ink news, plus tons of great comics. This is one of my favorite zines, I can't wait to see #3. If you liked Jeff's comic "Heroin Diet Plan", order this zine NOW!

Dirt

8 pages

price: 2 32 stamps or 50

P.O. Box 383

Vista, CA 92085

A zine dedicated to dead and dying punk rockers! #4 an article on the life and death of punk fashion, record reviews, and other punk related news. Oh, and a great comic too!



Tank Girl: The Odyssey

24 pages

price: \$2.25

published by DC comics

#1 of 4. the art is pretty good ...sob sob... the story is dull...sob sob...I just don't like it very much. But it's still a lot better than most comics. If you liked the movie, you'll like this comic.

Full Frontal Nudity

28 pages

price: \$2.00

Kyle Rimkus

20614 S Driftwood Drive

Frankfort, IL 60423

The coolest comic directory ever! #1 has interviews with Adriane Tomine and Dave Cooper(!). Plus tons of comic reviews that I totally agree with. Lots of great self -published stuff is featured here with addresses so you can support these independent artists. Get this zine and feel good about comics.



\$2



comics & mini-comics reviews
Interviews With Adriane Tomine & Dave Cooper
Confessions of an EIGHTBALL fan & more!



Self-Loathing Comics

36 pages

price: \$2.95

published by Fantagraphics

This comic has two parts, one half by Robert Crumb, and the other half by Aline Kominsky-Crumb. Both stories document the same day up to the point that each one starts their work on Self-Loathing Comics. Get it? Typical honest and revealing stuff that makes Robert and Aline great comic artists.

With Pleasure

32 pages

price: SASE

540 East 14th Street #2

New York, NY 10009

A zine packed with way too much stuff to mention, by a whole bunch of contributors.

#2 comes with a cool bookmark.



G-tan

66 pages

price: 6 issues for \$20.00

Daikaiju Enterprises

Box 3468, STEINBACH,

Manitoba, Canada, R0A 2A0

Volume 1 # 14. Godzilla fans unite! The mag is a G-fans dream come true. Movie news, comic news, toy news, plus art, letter, opinions, rants and more! A fanzine for Godzilla freaks.



PILLS-A-GO-GO journal of pills



Pills-a go-go

10 pages

price: \$2.00

1202 E Pike St #849

Seattle, WA 98122-3934

Now I know why everyone loves this zine. Such valuable information, as well as juicy news. Like that Michael Fay, the dude that was caned in Singapore, was given Prozac and Valium while he was in jail. Pills-a-go-go also has tons of info on health care, pharmaceutical breakthroughs, and my favorite, an article on pill etiquette. I love this stuff!!!!

Crazy Uncle Bill

16 pages price: \$1.00

P.O. Box 1041

Berkeley, CA 94701

"A send-up/ fetishist one-shot zine all about William S Burroughs". Jim is truly obsessed with Burroughs, but he's trying to work through it. This zine is full of quotes and photo collages. Kinda strange, but very cool.

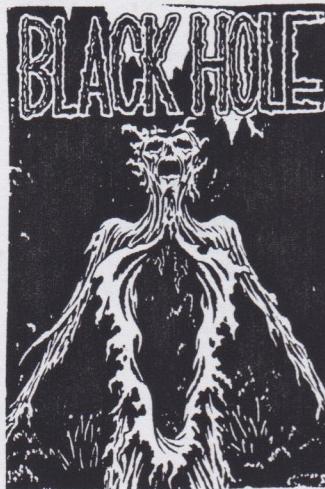




Juxtapoz
80 pages
price: 4 issues for \$10.00
San Francisco, CA 94188-4570
#3 A slick art type mag
that still retains sincerity.
Featured artists include:
Richard Kern, Kimberly Austin,
Victor Moscoso, Irene
Hardwicke, Jim Shaw, Neon Park
and more. The highlights this
issue were interviews with the
Keane's and Nicole Eisenman
who is a fucking amazing
artist. This issue is
way better than issue #2 and
is definitely worth the price.

Black Hole
40 pages
price: \$3.50
published by Kitchen Sink
Press
call for catalog
1-800-365-7465

#1 I read this comic a
few times and I'm still not
sure if I get it yet. I'm
going to read it again and
probably come up with a whole
new story. Anyway if you
like Charles Burns' bold art
you'll like this comic.



Scam
over 100 pages
price: \$1.00
c/o Iggy
2629 19th St.
San Francisco, CA 94110
#2 Mutiny In Miami issue.
A huge zine that chronicles
the life of a near genius. OK
maybe not a genius, just
someone who has a hella good
time with almost no money.
Get this zine if your one who
squats, or if you like to get
away with stuff for free.

JERSEY BEAT

ISSUE #55 WINTER 1995



Jersey Beat ✓

80 pages

price: \$2.00

418 Gregory Ave
Weehawken, NJ 07087

#53 Another great issue. Interviews with Mildred Pierce, Ff, Quicksand, Jeff Buckley, Xanax 25, Mike Watt, Riverdales, Cletus, and Poster Children. Articles on making it in New York, tons of music reviews, zine reviews and a great comic by Joel Menter. I really enjoyed the editorial page- Jim Testa rules.

Action Girl Comics

24 pages

price: \$2.50+ \$1.50 postage

Slave Labor Graphics

979 S Bascom Ave

San Jose, CA 95128

A comic anthology entirely by female cartoonists. #2 stuff by Elizabeth Watasin, Chantale Doyle, Patty Leidy, among others. Great art and fun reading, go to your comic book store now!



Goad to Hell!



In This Issue:
Interview with...
Answer Me
in & Debbie Goad
The Marlowes
Andy Seven
Red Aunts
Beth of Oiler
Bottom 10 List
LA Scene Report
Harsh Reviews
Writing Section
Under Review

Glossolalia

90 pages

price: \$2.00

4470 Sunset Blvd Ste 425
Hollywood, CA 90027-6305

"An LA punk zine" #3 interviews with Jim and Debbie Goad of Answer Me, The Marlowes, Andy Seven, Red Aunts, and Beth of Oiler. Also a bottom 10 list, a LA scene report harsh reviews, and a huge writing section.

Bee Skin

price: 3 stamps or trade
c/o Tony
136 Hillcrest Drive
Leucadia, Ca 92024

#only A one-shot zine
that has so much character.
It's full of great stuff. A
self contained comic, a slide
show, record reviews, fiction,
personal rants, and really
cool art. I liked this zine
so much because it's really
well rounded.



Shoelace Fanzine

#7 \$1.00
\$1.75
Postpaid



Interviews
Napalm Sunday
Sensefield
Leisure Hive

Shoelace Fanzine

36 pages
price: \$1.75
P.O. Box 7952

West Trenton, NJ 08628

#7 This zine starts out with a letter to the editor that is so hilarious it's worth the \$1.75 just to be able to read this. Zine, book, music, and show reviews, interviews with Napalm Sunday, Sensefield, and Leisure Hive. Plus great commentaries, poems, and stories that make this a really fun zine.

Juxt Magazine

62 pages
price: \$3.00

13601 Ventura Blvd St 140
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

4 this mag is kinda political for my taste, but still enjoyable. The highlights include interviews with the GoGo's and Elizabeth Wurtzel, the author of Prozac Nation. Also the art of Kathy L. Thomas. I really enjoyed the review of the cereal, General Mills is definitely trying to exploit our formative years.





\$2

Mister Density

the unofficial Crispin H. Glover fanzine #4 Winter, 1994-95

Mister Density
about 16 pages
price: \$2.00
P.O. Box 172
Westview Station
Binghampton, NY 13905-0172

A Crispin Glover fanzine that makes me more in lust with Crispin with each new issue. #4 has a cool 15"x4" format, includes an article on Crispin's video "Clowny Clown Clown", letters, a review of Crispin's album, and some Crispin facts, news, and rumors. The story about meeting Crispin's dad was the highlight this issue. #5 a look back at a year of this fanzine, a review of Cowgirls, Crispin the Messiah, the Warlock Pinchers, and more great stuff. Talk about devotion!!!

✓ Yard Wide Yarns

52 pages
price: .75 cents ppd, stamps,
or trade
c/o Jessica
1312 East Howry Ave
DeLand, FL 32724

#3 A great zine filled with tons of fun reading. Mini-interviews at a record store, Women in Gainesville bands, Q & A with God is My Co-Pilot and Mousetrap, a comic called "Fuck You, Frat Boys", articles, rants, some books to check out and tons of other good stuff. I'm so stoked to read that Jessica is gonna be a highschool teacher, I wish I had had a teacher that cool.

Y	A	R	D
W	I	D	E
Y	A	R	N





Ruckus

26 pages c/o Liz
136 Hillcrest Dr
Leucadia, CA 92024

#5 Liz is just back from Africa, and does she have some stories to tell. Articles about being identified by your skin color, culture shock, cafe hopping Ghana-style, and more. #6 personal rants about society's fixation with sex, plus rants by some of her friends. Great art on the cover and throughout the zine. #7 the layout on this zine rules. Stories of Liz's childhood, her job, and how uncivilized American culture can be. Ruckus is one of the most insightful zines I've read so far.

Heinous

price: \$1.00
P.O. Box 10412
Portland, OR 97210

For the love of Evel Knievel-what a zine! #3 frequently asked questions about wheelies, and Evel Knievel discography, and a brilliant look, at Chick Publications. Y'know those "fundamental christian mini-comics that you may have been handed to you on a street corner". It's pretty frightening to think that 350 million of those tracts have been sold. Get Heinous and you'll get your very own chick comic, as well as a great zine.

SUCKING IN THE NINETIES

Heinous

ISSUE 1
SYMPATHY FOR THE DAREDEVIL



CHICKS * STONES * EVEL



Book Your Own Fuckin' Life

142 pages

price: \$2.00

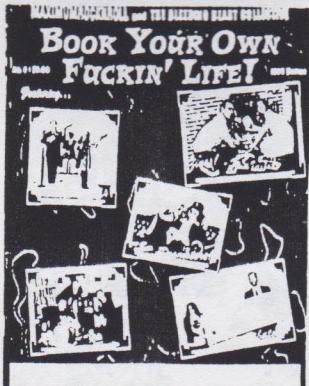
Bleeding Heart Collective

4728 Spruce St. Box 354

Philadelphia, PA 19139

#4 The bible of the DIY world. Listings of promoters, venues, bands, labels, radio stations, record and bookstores, zines, and other info, listed by state.

Compiled by the Bleeding Heart Collective and sponsored by MRR.



Dishwasher

52 pages

price: \$1.00

P.O. Box 4827

Arcata, CA 95221

#12. Pete, the guy who wrote the majority of this zine, is a dishwashing renegade. He travels around the country washing dishes and writes of his adventures/experiences.

This issue: dishes in Boston, Mississippi, New Orleans, Little Rock, plus interviews with a waitress, dishwasher comics, book excerpts, dishwasher fashion, dishwasher news, dishwasher history, and more and more and more. I love this zine!



Mold Zine

16 pages

price: \$1.00 or trade

7 F Street

Hampton Beach, NH 03842

#2 Huggy Bear, anti-Tom Jones rant, Slap Happy Suzy, and more. The first NH zine I've ever read and it's pretty darn good



THB

about 50 pages
price: \$2.95
write for a catalog
Paul Pope
c/o Horse
P.O. Box 3112
Columbus, Ohio 43210-0112

I don't want to give away any of this comic's great plot, so I'll just say it's about a girl, a robot, and her inflatable bodyguard THB. The best way I can describe this comic is that it's more like a movie than a book. A really good read and really fun art.



Fucktooth

72 pages
price: \$1.00+32cent stamp
P.O. Box 43604
Cleveland, OH 44143

#17 Jen Angel packs so much writing in this zine!! It's full of rants, opinions, ideas and advice. There's way too much stuff to mention specifically. If you haven't read this zine yet, you're missing out.

Aint Nothin' Like Fuckin Moonshine

48 pages
price: \$3.00
2033 15th Street #6
San Francisco, CA 94114

#9 this zine has so much of the stuff I'm into it's scary. My favorite was the interview with Richard Sala, but I also enjoyed all the great art, stuff about toys, hotwheels, and interview with Tina Age 13.



Lori
Brix
Grain
Wend
793-5

MUSIC REVIEWS

King Crimson / 43½ Copley
Symphony Hall, Wednesday, June 28, 8 p.m., 750 B Street

French Liberals of '48 (151), and
Edna Swap: *Cushion* 8:30 p.m.

Grandstand Stage, Del Mar Fairgrounds,
Tuesday, July 4, 2 p.m. 793-3555
The Righteous

ing
5½
Big
3½

W.
Suh
Aven
Earth
Embar
July 10
Convent
Girls Ag
Civic Club



Tilt-cd

Tilt-P.O. Box 4579 Berkeley, CA 94704

'Til It Kills

Fat Wreck Chords

What I can't understand is why it took me so long to hear Tilt. I know that I had seen their shirts way before I'd ever heard a song, and that's so sad because their music is so gosh darn likable. It's not really "poppy" or anything, it just has that "why isn't the whole world humming their songs" sound. I especially like the song Berkeley Pier it's the best Doo-Wop song ever! -Megan

Boilermaker-cd

Watercourse

Goldenrod Records

Leucadiacore indeed... most of these songs are familiar to me from the many times I've seen them live. This doesn't diminish the power and beauty of Boilermaker, even after having heard most of the songs before hearing the record... Slightly Slintish, slightly Fugazi-ish, but all Boilermaker. It's usually hard for me to listen to something less than upbeat pop-punk for an extended period, but Boilermaker is an exception. My favorite song by far is one that I've only heard once live -"Trunk". If you like slightly clangy but rhythmic guitar, SOLID drums and base, and comparable to Sting singing, all coming together beautifully, get this album. -BOB

Red Aunts-cassette

Red Aunts-1608 N. Cahuenga #332
Los Angeles, CA 90028

#1 Chicken

Epitaph

Punk with crassitude. It reminds us of 45 Grave. -Shane & Megan(yes it took two people to review this tape)



Earth Crisis-cassette
Destroy the Machines
Victory Records

This tape was dedicated to the vegan straightedge so needless to say this is a band with a message. I'm so out of touch with this type of music. Other than the growly vocals and heavy rhythmic guitar, I can't tell ya exactly what it sounds like other than it's pretty cool. -Megan



✓ Nothing Rhymes With Orange-7"
Nothing Rhymes With Orange-196 E.
15th Street Chico, CA 95928
Goldenrod Records

This is positively my favorite band right now. I guess I like them because it seems like they're having so much fun. Out of the five songs on the record my favorite is Wilbur, no doubt a song about a pig. Please listen to this record. It will make you smile, I promise! Plus, you can't go wrong transparent orange vinyl. -Megan

No Use For A Name-cd
i Leche Con Carne!
Fat Wreck Chords

If the magician on Sesame Street (Was it Mumford the Magician!? I can't remember!!) were a Rolling Stone writer now he would say "A-LA-NOFX!" Seriously, NUFAN (New fan?) are in the same vein as NOFX, but much different. The faster stuff I could live without but the more melodic 1/8 note drum beat stuff is incredible. Songs that stick out- Soulmate and Leave it Behind. Plus -don't miss the bonus track. -BOB

Dieselhed-cd
Dieselhed-502 Bartlett San Francisco, CA 94110
Amarillo Records

Well, here I go trying to explain an unexplainable band. A little bit o' country a little bit o' punk rock? Anyway I really like the lyrics in all the songs, as well as all the different styles of music. Basically if you're looking for a change of pace, check out this band, and definitely see them live if you get the chance. -Megan



Bob "Bondey" Johnston-/"

Liquid Meat Records

This German band kicks some serious fanny with their first U.S. release. Out of the three songs on this album, TV was my favorite, female vocalists rule. I think aggressive is the best adjective I can use to describe this band. Definately a good record to own. -Megan

Blink-cd

Blink- P.O. Box 500901 San Diego, CA 92150-0901

Cheshire Cat

Grilled Cheese (Cargo Records)

The headlines should read "San Diego Sensations" but I'll just say "Descendants Rip-offs!!! Just kidding, Blink has a sound close to the Descendants, but all their own at the same time. Upbeat, poppy-poppypoppy punk rock, with enough sense of humor to knock out Dice in one round, this record is like frosted mini-wheats -the frosted side appeals to the kid in you, while the wheat side appeals to the adult in you. (The frosted side the ever present girl-lust theme, the adult/wheat side the musical strength). Every song is catchy, very sweet (know what I mean), but a good investment. Especially check out "Touchdown Boy" and "Does My Breath Smell".

-BOB

Oi!/Skampilation Vol.#1

cassette

Radical Records

A compilation that features 17 bands and includes: The Bouncing Souls, The Checkered Cabs, Agent 99, The Press and The Wretched Ones. These bands were recorded live from a two day Ska fest in New York, I wish I had been there!!! It usually seems like most Ska bands I've heard sound so much better live, if that's the case with this recording then the show must have been amazing, because this tape is totally energetic and the sound is really clean. If your not really into Ska music this may be the tape to get you hooked, it's definitely one of my favorites. -Megan



ADDRESSES:

- * Amarillo Records: P.O. Box 24433 San Francisco, CA 94124
- * Epitaph Records: 2798 Sunset Blvd. Suite 111 Hollywood, CA 90026
- * Fat Wreck Chords: P.O. Box 460144 San Francisco, CA 94146
- * Goldenrod Records: 3770 Tansy St. San Diego, CA 92121
- * Liquid Meat: P.O. Box 460692 Escondido, CA 92046
- * Radical Records: 77 Bleeker Street Suite C2-21 New York, NY 10012
- * Victory Records: P.O. Box 146546 Chicago, IL, 60614

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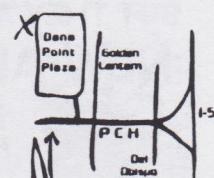


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